

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the City of Lynn. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of the City of Lynn**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.9% (2,191) of these admissions reside in the City of Lynn. 5.5% (120) of admissions from the City of Lynn were under 18 years of age.

**Please note that these statistics represent only admissions, and can represent a figure larger than the actual number of individuals.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the City of Lynn reported the following characteristics:

- 67.2% (1,473) were male and 32.8% (718) were female.
- 57.6% (1,262) were between the ages of 21-39.
- 70.4% (1,542) were white non-Latino, 10.0% (220) were black non-Latino, 15.4% (338) were Latino, and 4.2% (91) were other racial categories.
- 67.2% (1,472) were never married, 14.2% (310) were married, and 18.7% (409) reported not to be married now.
- 33.9% (742) had less than high school education, 50.3% (1,103) completed high school, and 15.8% (346) had more than high school education.
- 24.1% (529) were employed.
- 11.4% (250) were homeless.
- 31.5% (689) had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the City of Lynn.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
City	37%	35%	10%	5%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Number of admissions Reporting Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
City of Lynn							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '96</b>	1,945	1,372	554	792	673	836	545
<b>FY '97</b>	1,910	1,374	527	659	481	857	604
<b>FY '98</b>	1,998	1,357	522	605	358	937	616
<b>FY '99</b>	2,177	1,553	632	677	367	939	667
<b>FY '00</b>	2,542	1,811	743	725	364	1,047	777
<b>FY '01</b>	2,259	1,557	626	542	237	879	591
<b>FY '02</b>	2,495	1,615	653	589	219	968	636
<b>FY '03</b>	2,191	1,333	581	510	205	851	566

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the City of Lynn and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

